

June 2025 Newsletter

Martin Luther Chapel

Greetings brothers and sisters in Christ.

The winter season is coming to a close and spring is in full swing. This is a unique time in the keys when the snowbirds and other winter travelers make their way back North. And what follows are our friends from Southern Florida who, now that their children are out of school, make their way down to the Keys for weekend getaways. Sombrero Beach will be full most weekends until the weather cools again in November. This cycle of winter and summer visitors means the slow summers of years past are not so slow now. It seems that the rush of the world is here to stay in the Keys.

This rush is also evident in the way we consume information, in particular news. The 24-hour news cycle happens in such a way that what is news today is old news 24 to 48 hours later. Things that happened last week seem like ancient history.

What I am describing here is that everything seems to be in motion, and the rate of that motion is increasing. This ever-increasing rate in the movement of people and information through time means things around us change quickly. This rate of change in our lives will increase over time.

Recognizing this rapidity of change can help the Christian discern what it means to be in the world but not of the world. Yes, we are in the chaos but we are not part of it. We don't contribute to it. A couple verses are coming to mind from the letter of James chapter 1:17-18.

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

The temptation for us is to be drawn away from God by the enticement and deception of rapid change. The temptation is to lose our anchor in Christ and enter into a vortex in which we have no footing as we are pulled into a downward spiral. But Saint James keeps us sober minded. He warns us,

"Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am being tempted by God,' for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death."



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Sunday Worship Schedule:

**10:00 am Divine
Service
Coffee, refresh-
ments, Fellowship &
Bible Study
to follow**

I find that thankfulness is one of our best defenses against the chaotic spiral of change and temptation. Here is a simple scripture to commit to memory. You can use it as a table prayer. Yes, pray together as family and friends. Never pass up the opportunity to pray a prayer of thanksgiving before you share a meal. This is from the Small Catechism.

The eyes of all look to you, [O, Lord] and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. (Ps.145:15-16)

Then say the Lord's Prayer followed by:

Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

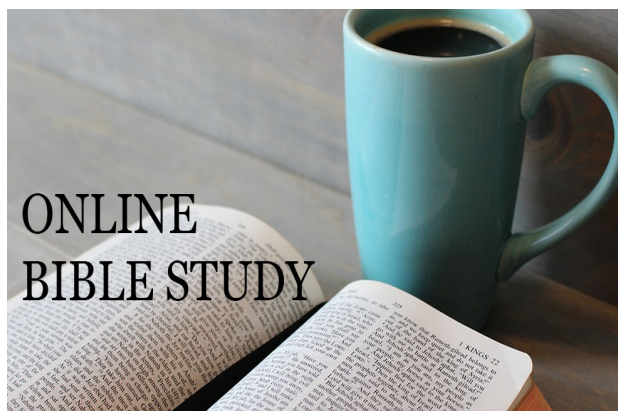
Or

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank you for Your gifts which we are about to receive from your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The important thing to remember is to be thankful, thankful to God our heavenly Father. All good and perfect gifts come from Him alone. Thankfulness keeps us grounded.

In Christ,

Pastor Tony Mandile



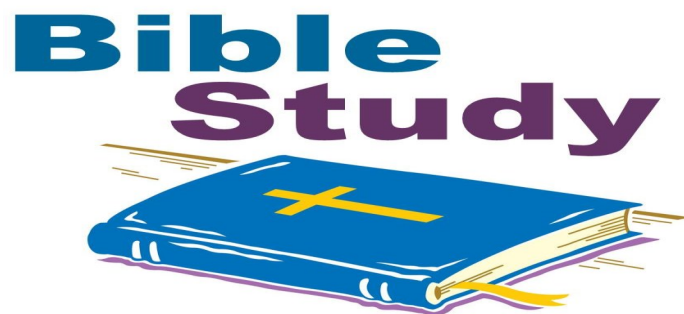
1—The weekly online Bible Studies of the Acts of Apostles is at 11:00 am on Thursday. Please email Pastor Tony at abmnepa@gmail.com to receive the Google Meet login link.

2—**NEW!** Weekly Online Bible Study of the Revelation of Jesus Christ. Wednesdays at 1:00 pm starting June 4th.

Please email Pastor Tony at abmnepa@gmail.com to receive the Google Meet login link.

Please join us on Sundays, immediately following Fellowship. We are reading through many of the great stories in the Old Testament. Currently we are reading about Abraham, Jacob and Joseph.

All are welcome!



PRAYER Requests

Thanks and praise to our Lord Jesus Christ

- For our congregation leadership and those who volunteer their time.
- For all of our households. Blessings on our homes, that all who enter our homes enter into the presence of Jesus Christ.

Heavenly Father, we ask that you would

- Grant us new friends and acquaintances to invite into the Word and Sacramental ministry at Martin Luther Chapel.
- Grant us all a stronger desire to read, study and learn about your holy Word.
- Grant healing to Erin Clark as she recovers from surgery.
- Grant healing and strength to Ruth Schnake.
- Grant John, Eilene and Julian healing and Faith.
- Grant Norman Ocampo Jr a Faithful Christian life and home and that his daughter be brought to Baptism.
- Grant healing and courage to Freddy and Nikoleta Herrera, Freddy has kidney disease.
- Grant peace and a strong Christian faith to our brothers and sisters whose families are facing difficulties.

And Jesus said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send our laborers into his harvest.

Let us pray

- For young men to enter the pastoral ministry.
- That young men and women would be drawn toward Jesus and worship him and honor the estate of Holy Matrimony. Let their homes be blessed and their children raised to be godly men and women.

Into your hands O Father, we commend all our prayers to Your holy will, trusting in Your mercies that are new every morning.



6/08 Jon & Debra Grill



Don't forget to pick up a copy of Portals of Prayer Devotional from the back of the



Join us for coffee and snacks after service on Sunday. There is a signup sheet if you would like to help out!



"God WILL answer all our prayers. But you never know if it's gonna be a 'yes' or a 'no.'"



Please help support Martin Luther Chapel

Scan the QR code to be taken to our **Zeffy donation form**.



100% of your donation goes directly to Martin Luther Chapel — Zeffy charges no fees!

How to Donate:

1. **Choose a pre-set amount** or enter your own.
2. **Enter your personal information.**
3. **Review your donation** on the summary screen.

IMPORTANT: Zeffy will suggest a 17% tip.
This is ***OPTIONAL***.

- Once you enter your donation amount, click continue.
- Click on the dropdown that shows 17%
- Choose **“Other”**, and click on pre-set amount ***OR*** enter **\$0, \$0.25**, or any amount you prefer.

4. Choose a payment method:

- Credit card
- Or **U.S. bank account**

5. Press “Donate” to complete your gift.

Thank you for supporting Martin Luther Chapel!

“Every gift makes a difference”

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1. The English Standard Version of the Holy Scriptures is the one used in the Lutheran Service Book (Hymnal) and in our weekly bulletins.



[Online Bible](#)

2. Lutheran Public Radio is an excellent source for news and information in the Christian perspective.



[Lutheran Public Radio Talk Radio and Sacred Music](#)

3. This is a weekly podcast discussing various Christian topics



[Gottesdienst \(Regular Meeting For Worship\)](#)

4. A Brief History of Power is unique. I dare you to listen!



[A Brief History of Power - A Podcast By Dr. Koontz and Rev Fisk](#)

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